

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02
DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 /127 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6523
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 05037

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, PARM, IAEA, CA, JA
SUBJECT: CANADIAN CANDIDATE FOR IAEA DEPUTY DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR SAFEGUARDS

REF: STATE 77074

1. EMBOFF MADE INFORMAL DEMARCHE MAR. 27 TO HIROSHI OHTA, DIRECTOR, SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS DIV., UN BUREAU, MOFA, USING TALKING POINTS PROVIDED REFTEL.
2. OHTA EXPRESSED COMPLETE FAMILIARITY WITH ISSUE, BUT WAS UNRECEPTIVE TO SUGGESTION THAT GOJ SUPPORT DR. PRINCE'S CANDIDACY. HE SAID THAT GOJ HAD NOT YET MADE A COMMITMENT TO AN INDIVIDUAL BUT "ALL OTHER THINGS BEING EQUAL, JAPAN WOULD PREFER A CANDIDATE FROM A POLITICALLY NEUTRAL WESTERN COUNTRY." WHEN EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT PRINCE APPEARED TO MEET THIS CRITERION, OHTA REPLIED THAT "NEUTRAL" IN THE CONTEXT HE USED THE WORD MEANT NEITHER A MEMBER OF NATO NOR THE WARSAW PACT NATIONS.

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3. WHEN ASKED IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA WAS A PROBLEM BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS THAT HAD OCCURRED ON AMENDING THE JAPAN-CANADA NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT, OHTA REPLIED THAT ALTHOUGH IAEA OFFICIALS WERE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS AND WERE PRESUMABLY FREE OF NATIONAL BIAS IN THEIR AGENCY ACTIVITIES, THEY COULD BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT THEIR

NATIONAL INTERESTS IN THE AGENCY. HE JUSTIFIED THIS
OPINION BY NOTING THAT NATIONAL OR POLITICAL BLOC
REPRESENTATION WAS CAREFULLY BALANCED AND MAINTAINED IN
THE APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR IAEA OFFICIALS, AND
THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO SEEK A POLITICAL NEUTRAL
FOR THE SENIOR SAFEGUARDS POSITION OF THE AGENCY.

4. COMMENT: WE GUESS THAT POLITICAL NEUTRALITY IN THE
VEIN USED BY OHTA IS NOT AS BROAD A CONCEPT AS HE
OUTLINED, BUT RATHER AN EXPRESSION OF REACTION TO THE
STRONG EXPORT CONTROL POSITION TAKEN BY CANADA IN RECENT
NEGOTIATIONS AND FEAR THAT A CANADIAN SAFEGUARDS OFFICIAL
WOULD ATTEMPT TO INSTITUTE SIMILAR PHILOSOPHY IN THE
IAEA. GOC ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL BOARD WAS THE DRIVING
FORCE BEHIND NEW GOC CONTROLS OVER JAPAN, AND WOULD NOT
ACCEPT MORE MODERATE POSITIONS PROPOSED BY GOC EMBASSY
IN TOKYO, ACCORDING TO GOC SENIOR OFFICIALS HERE.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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